

Community Group Discussion Guide
 Week 5 - Purifier
 John 2:12-24

May 19, 2013

Read John 2:12-24 and then answer the following questions.

Introduction

The Gospel of John provides the most comprehensive and penetrating answer to the central question of history... Who is Jesus Christ?

The answer to this question, as I see it, isn't a flat, one dimensional answer. There are many dimensions to who Jesus is. It's in understanding each one that we understand who he is, and what this means for us.

Questions for Study

1. When you think of who Jesus is what are the top 3 images that come to mind? How do portraits of Jesus typically display Him as?
2. Describing Jesus as "angry" from this passage would not be an inaccurate assessment to say the least. What did Jesus do and say? Why do you think He was so angry? What was being compromised?
3. What do His words and His actions reveal about His own identity? What was the place of the temple in the life of the Jews? (See 2 Chronicles 7:12-16) How does this further explain Jesus' anger?
4. When Jesus said: "*Get these out of here!*" He was referring to the very things that distracted the people from authentic worship and communion with God. Spend sometime thinking about your own life...are there things that Jesus would say: "Get that out of your life...it's a distraction for our relationship!" Couple what is happening in this passage with other verses from the book of John like: John 17:3; John 10:10; John 20:31. What is the aim of Jesus throughout this book that we can't afford to miss?
5. Reread verses 17-22. What did the Jewish leaders demand of Jesus and how did He respond?
6. How would Jesus take the place of the temple? Where is our temple? (See vs. 21; 1 Cor 6:19-20)
7. Reread verses 23-25. What was their "faith" resting on and how did it play out? Was it authentic faith?
8. What applications can you take from this text and apply to your life? (Is there anything that is a distraction from your intimacy with Jesus? Do you have authentic faith that is built on who Jesus is?)